

What is claimed is:

1. A supplemental air filter for trapping hydrocarbon emissions, for use with a conventional annular air filter of an internal combustion engine, the supplemental air filter comprising:

- a flexible cover sized to snugly envelop the conventional annular filter;
- means for sealing said flexible cover against opposite axial ends of the conventional annular filter; and
- means carried by said flexible cover for distributing carbon media over a significant portion of said flexible cover.

2. A supplemental air filter in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said flexible cover is generally annular in shape, opposite axial ends of said cover being positionable over opposite axial ends of the conventional annular filter.

3. A supplemental air filter in accordance with Claim 2 wherein said means for sealing comprises elastic rings at said opposite axial ends of said cover, said elastic rings exerting

radially inward force against the opposite axial ends of the conventional annular filter.

4. A supplemental air filter in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said means for distributing comprises at least one fibrous matrix impregnated with activated carbon.

5. A supplemental air filter in accordance with Claim 4 wherein said means for distributing comprises a plurality of fibrous matrix segments impregnated with activated carbon, each of said plurality of fibrous matrix segments received within a corresponding one of a plurality of pockets defined by said flexible cover.

6. A supplemental air filter in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said means for distributing comprises a plurality of pockets defined by stitching together, at defined locations, a plurality of laminae comprising said flexible cover.

7. A supplemental air filter in accordance with Claim 6 wherein each of said pockets encloses a multiplicity of activated carbon pellets.

8. An air cleaner assembly, comprising:

- an annular air filter as conventionally used in a carburetor of an internal combustion engine, the annular air filter including a generally annular filtration portion and a generally circular ring at each of opposite axial ends of the generally annular filtration portion;
- a cover positionable to closely overlie the generally annular filtration portion of the annular filter;
- means for sealing said cover against the generally circular rings of the annular filter;
- laminae of overlapping flexible material comprising said cover, said laminae secured together along boundaries to define a plurality of pockets; and
- carbon media carried within said pockets.

9. An air filter assembly in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said sealing means comprises an elastic ring radially inwardly engagable against each of said generally circular rings at the opposite axial ends of the generally annular filtration portion of the annular air filter.

10. An air cleaner assembly in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said carbon media carried within said pockets

comprises a segment of fibrous matrix impregnated with activated carbon and received within one of said pockets.

11. A method for retrofitting a conventional annular air filter of an internal combustion engine for trapping hydrocarbon emissions, wherein the conventional air filter is annular, comprising the steps of:

- providing a cover positionable over the conventional annular filter in relatively tight engagement with an outer surface of the conventional annular filter;
- sealing the cover against opposite axial ends of the conventional annular air filter; and
- distributing activated carbon media over an area of an outwardly facing surface of the conventional annular filter.